FutureHorizons

The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

FH MONDAY

4 July 2022



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Qualcomm goes 'full stack' with unified AI software approach

Qualcomm Technologies has unveiled its Qualcomm AI Stack portfolio, bringing a unified software approach to creating AI applications across multiple different Qualcomm products, a move that comes as many semiconductor technology companies are going "full stack" to help developers accelerate what otherwise could be complex and clunky creative activities.

The AI Stack portfolio combines and improves Qualcomm's existing AI offerings, the company said, by delivering a comprehensive AI solution for OEMs and developers, supporting a wide range of intelligent devices with broad AI software access and compatibility. It enables a single AI software portfolio that works across Qualcomm-powered Connected Intelligent Edge products, including mobile, automotive, extended reality, computing, IoT, and cloud platforms.

SK Hynix Acquires Patent License For Device Memory Technologies

South Korean semiconductor firm SK hynix has been granted a worldwide, non-exclusive patent license from Longitude Licensing Ltd. for the patent portfolio of Longitude Flash Memory Solutions, Ltd., which comprises more than 500 patents related to the design, manufacturing and operation of various kinds of memory devices.

Both Longitude Licensing Ltd. (LLL) and Longitude Flash Memory Solutions, Ltd. (LFMS), are affiliated with IPValue Management, a company that manages the monetization of intellectual property portfolios for technology clients, and has forged licensing agreements with many semiconductor companies. IPValue claims to have generated nearly \$3 billion in cash from patent licenses, and has delivered nearly \$1.5 billion to its partners, along with other valuable considerations.

OpenLight Announces New Open Silicon Photonics Platform

OpenLight, a newly launched, independent company formed by investments from Synopsys and Juniper, announced yesterday the world's first open silicon photonics platform with integrated lasers. The California–based company seeks to provide chip manufacturers with a means to create photonic integrated circuits (PICs) that offer the highest performance possible. Applications will include datacom, telecom, and LiDAR markets, to name a few, all while operating at low power.

With a recent exponential increase in the use of artificial-intelligence and machine-learning technologies, silicon photonics has seen a recent surge. Chipmakers are now setting their sights on PICs thanks to their innate ability to address the growing bandwidth demands of high-level applications.

Self-Driving Tech Faces Investor Slowdown Amid Rising Interest Rates

Self-driving cars and shuttles are coming, although Covid has slowed down some of the progress toward the technology. Raising capital amid rising interest rates will not help, speakers at the Autonomous Technologies Conference on Monday said.

There are admittedly still multiple tech challenges to be overcome, including a continuing debate over whether lidar is essential in autonomy alongside cameras and radar sensors. Government guidance, in the U.S. especially, is unclear, and a number of U.S. cities are trying out autonomous shuttles or robo-taxis, but there is not a standard approach.

More worrying is whether investors are sitting back after a big push two years ago. Rising interest rates are sure to hurt the efforts of companies seeking their help.

Analog Devices Launches Module For 3D Sensing For Machine Vision

Analog Devices launched a 1 megapixel module Monday for 3D depth sensing and vision sensing based on indirect Time of Flight technology.

The tiny ADTF3175 module will allow accuracy within about 3mm over distances from 4 centimeters to 4 meters. It is suggested for use in machine vision for industrial automation, healthcare and augmented reality applications. The company claimed it is an industry first design.

The module is being shown at Sensors Converge in San Jose Tuesday and Wednesday. It is priced for samples at \$197 in quantities of 1,000.